

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: March 8, 2023

CAO File No. 0220-05912-0011
Council File No. 21-1015-S3
Council District: ALL

To: The Honorable Members of the City Council

From: 
Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Subject: **UPDATED - FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS: BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION OFFICE - ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Board of Public Works (Board), Director of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), and/or their designees, to prepare the grant application for the proposals as outlined in Attachments 1 for the Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program; and,
2. Instruct the Board, CEMO, or designees, if awarded, to report back to request authority to accept the grant award(s) and confirm that there is no additional General Fund fiscal impact.

SUMMARY

On October 12, 2021, Council adopted a Motion (Krekorian – Blumenfield - O’Farrell – Martinez - Harris-Dawson – Price – Cedillo) instructing the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish a process to review and prioritize applications for federal and state grant infrastructure funding opportunities. On March 9, 2022, the Council approved the CAO and Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) proposed internal review process. The process integrates the City’s current grant application process for projects in response to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (federal) and California Comeback Plan (state) related grant opportunities with the Capital and Technology Improvement Policy prioritization guidelines (C.F. 21-1015).

This CAO report provides a summary of a federal grant opportunity for which the Board of Public Works, Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), has reported an interest in applying (Attachment 1). Our Office reviewed the request based on the CAO approved review process and guidelines **and** recommend approval of the application. CEMO has been mandated by the City Council to advise the Bureau of Engineering on City Building

Decarbonization and to work with the Emergency Management Department on an equitable Cooling Center/Resilience Hub Plan. With CEMO overlaid data from the City of LA Equity Index (which integrates CalEnviroscreen) and the UCLA Heat Risk Map, CEMO targeted and identified the top 10% of the areas/zones in the city with the highest mortality and hospitalization rates from extreme heat, which are defined as super Disadvantaged Communities. CEMO then integrated the Federal Scorecard to ensure the City is addressing communities of highest needs, and identified three libraries in Los Angeles. The requested funds are to be used to retrofit the libraries and to work with community based organizations such as Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles and its coalition of environmental justice organizations engaged in promoting education on extreme heat and climate resiliency. The specific grant opportunity meets the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) requirements. The federal opportunity detailed in the attachment is related to the following federal program:

- U.S Environmental Protection Agency: US17897 Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program (EJG2G)
 - Application Deadline: April 14, 2023
 - Grant Performance Period: December 1, 2023 to September 2026

Matching Fund Requirements - In accordance with the Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6, departments may submit applications without Mayor and Council approval if no City General Funds, matching funds, or other commitments of City resources are required. It is anticipated that this EJG2G grant does not require matching funds.

Expedited Review - Prior Mayor and Council approval may also be waived when the NOFA is published less than 61 days in advance of the date of application. CEMO is required to provide this notice as the NOFA was provided with more than 61 days notice. The due date of the NOFA is April 14, 2023.

Required Approval to Accept Award - In accordance with the above administrative code section, all departments are required to seek Mayor and Council approval **before** accepting and receiving a grant award. It is therefore recommended that CEMO report to the Mayor and Council upon award notification in order to request authority to accept and receive the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund impact.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will not result in a General Fund impact. However, upon notification of grant award, if the City is awarded, a reassessment on the General Fund impact should be completed.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies.

Attachment 1 - Grant Programs Without Match Requirements

cc: CAO Grant Coordinator

MWS/PJH/JVW/amm:10230085rev

UPDATED ATTACHMENT 1 – GRANT PROGRAMS WITHOUT MATCH REQUIREMENT

Environmental Justice Government-to-Government (EJG2G) Program - FY 2023

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

NOFA Release Date: January 10, 2023

Due: April 14, 2023

Performance Period: December 2023 to September 2026

No Match Requirement

Lead Department	(CD) Project Name	Project Description	Total Project Budget (in millions)	Total Grant Request (in millions)	Planned Completion Date
BPW / CEMO	(All) Heat and Climate Resilient Communities	This project, under the oversight of the Board's Climate Emergency Mobilization Office, will address climate resilience, Disaster Resiliency, and Emergency Preparedness for targeted Environmental Justice (EJ) communities at greatest risk of preventable illness and death from extreme heat. By strengthening local resilience hubs at three existing City library sites in targeted pollution burdened areas of need, by increasing nature based solutions reducing Greenhouse Gases (GHGs), building leadership on disaster and climate resilience among the local promotora network via our libraries and in the neighborhoods, CEMO will build awareness of the risks of extreme heat and climate change with local marginalized groups, thus developing local promotora networks among young adults and mothers, engaging frontline communities, to reduce risks of premature death, and reducing overall health disparities that make these communities more vulnerable to extreme heat and climate change to improve equity. We will measure the progress with established baselines and metrics and work closely with LAPL and EMD in coordination of resources.	\$1.0	\$1.0	3 years (10/01/2026)